

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2763
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002
ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF CONTAINER CARGO
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of sea-borne Container Cargo is 12.5 per annum as compared to the international figure of rate 7% per annum;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the special measure taken by the Government to ensure that this growth in the container segment continues through better port facilities;
- (c) whether congestion at JNPT and other ports is delaying the growth of container traffic in the country; and
- (d) if so, steps taken by the Government to reduce port congestion involving container traffic?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Over 1998-99 to 2000-01 period, annual compound growth rate of about 12.5% has been registered for containers in terms of their number in Twenty Feet Equivalent Unit (TEU). As in the case of other cargoes, the growth of containers is dependent on the general increase in trade volumes. In addition, the containerization of the containerizable cargo adds to the growth of containers. To maintain this trend, the main efforts made are containerization of such cargoes which were not hitherto containerized, development of better port facilities for handling of containers, development of Inland Container Depots and improvement of transportation system for carriage of containers.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.